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Basic Imagery Interpretation Brief



**NATIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
CENTER**

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PLESETSK LAUNCH SITES 23 & 24

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MISSILE RANGES-STRATEGIC SSM & SPACE FACILITIES

USSR

APRIL 1969

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME					COUNTRY	
Plesetsk Launch Sites 23 and 24					UR	
UTM COORDINATES	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES	CATEGORY	BE NUMBER	COMIREX NO.	NIETB NO.	
NA	See below	See below	See below	See below	See below	
MAP REFERENCE						
SAC. USATC Series 200. Sheet M0102-9HL. 4th ed. Dec 65. scale 1:200,000						
(SECRET)						
LATEST IMAGERY USED			NEGATION DATE (if required)			

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<u>Launch Site</u>	<u>Geographic Coords</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>BE No</u>	<u>COMIREX No</u>	<u>NIETB No</u>	
Site 23	63-00-36N 041-32-17E					50X1
Site 24	63-00-30N 041-33-40E					

INTRODUCTION

This brief updates an NPIC report of January 1968¹ on the development of launch sites 23 and 24, Type IIIIE single-silo sites at the Plesetsk Missile and Space Center, USSR.

Launch Sites 23 and 24, which are associated with the SS-13 missile system, are located in the eastern portion of the Plesetsk complex. The silos were first observed in an early stage of construction in May 1967 and were completed by February 1969.

BASIC DESCRIPTION

Launch sites 23 (Figure 1) and 24 (Figure 2) are approximately 1,055 feet apart and are encompassed by a common outer security fence. Each site is further secured by an inner fence which surrounds the silo and silo apron. Access to the two sites, which are oriented on an azimuth of 175/355 degrees, is provided by a hard-surfaced road. After entering the outer fence, the road forks, with a branch serving each launch site. A small site support building is located to the rear of the silo, outside of the inner security fence. An earthen mound, possibly housing a small structure, is to the rear of the silo and adjacent to the silo door stop. Similar mounds have also been observed at the other type IIIIE launch sites; however, they are not always in the same relative positions. Three instrumentation hardstands or silos are forward of each silo. The lack of identification at either site of a launch control facility indicates that launch operations are controlled from an off-site location. In this instance, it may be from control facility A (formerly launch site 12), which is approximately 2.2 nautical miles south-southwest of the launch area. Both sites were complete by February 1969.

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REFERENCES

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DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. Plesetsk Missile and Space Center, USSR
(Eastern Portion), Jan 68 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

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REQUIREMENT

COMIREX BR-P/002-69
NPIC Project 210276AA

*Latest available imagery as of

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